REMARKS

Introduction

Claims 1 - 18 are presently pending in this application.

Claim Rejections

Double Patenting

Claims 1 - 18 were rejected "on the grounds of non-statutory obvious-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1 - 8 of U.S. co-pending application no. 10/478,514 (sic. 10/748,514)." The Examiner maintains that claims 1 - 6 of the present application are not patentably distinct from claims 1 - 3 of the '514 application and claims 7 - 12 and 13 - 18 of the present application are not patentably distinct from claims 7 - 8 of the '514 application. Accordingly, the Examiner asserts that a Terminal Disclaimer should be filed to overcome this rejection. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. However, the Examiner also notes that the application is in a condition for allowance except for this formal matter concerning a Terminal Disclaimer.

Accordingly, submitted herewith, applicants have provided a Terminal Disclaimer to obviate the obvious-type double patenting rejection in the present application.

Conclusion

In view of the above, applicants respectfully submit that the claims clearly distinguish over the prior art and are therefore allowable. Accordingly, applicants respectfully solicit the allowance of the claims pending in the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

Gerald E. McGlynn, III Registration No. 33,737 BLISS McGLYNN, P.C.

2075 W. Big Beaver, Suite 600

Troy, MI 48084

Phone: (248) 649-6090 Fax: (248) 649-6299

Email: gemcglynn@ipdirection.com

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